

SOUTHWICK URBAN DISTRICT

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A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH


FOR THE YEAR

19 39



BY

R. HEYWOOD WILSHAW,
M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.,



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SOUTHWICK URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL

10, Bulkington Avenue,
Worthing.

November, 1940.

Gentlemen,

Acting on the instructions contained in Circular 2067, in which it states that reports should be confined to essential and urgent matters which have affected the public health during the year, especially any matters arising from or connected with the war, outbreaks of infectious disease, and measures for maternity and child welfare, together with any exceptional administrative measures taken or recommended by the Medical Officer of Health, I beg to make the following observations.

Statistics 1939.

	<u>Southwick.</u>	<u>England & Wales.</u>
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	. 14.9	15.0
Death Rate per 1,000 population	. 11.9	12.1
Corrected Death Rate	. 9.9	--
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Births	. 47	50

The population as given by the Registrar General on which the Birth Rate is calculated is 9,734, and that on which the Death Rate is calculated is 10,100. The factor for correction is 0.83, which gives a corrected Death Rate of 9.9.

Evacuation.

On the outbreak of war approximately 1,736 children and mothers were evacuated to Southwick from vulnerable areas. During the last three months of the year the presence of these children caused no appreciable increase in the incidence of infectious disease. Arrangements were made for sick evacuee children to be treated at the Sick Bay, Evelyn House, Shoreham-by-Sea.

Infectious Disease.

During the year the following cases of infectious disease were notified:-

Scarlet Fever	...	21	{ 10 in 1938 }
Typhoid Fever	...	1	{ nil " " }
Pneumonia	...	8	{ 3 " " }
Tuberculosis	...	5	{ 11 " " }
Erysipelas	...	3	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	1	
Measles	...	2	

Housing.

No. of new houses erected during 1939:

By Private Enterprise	...	54
By Local Authority	...	13

During the year six houses were demolished and three closed. One underground room was closed.

Bacteriological Samples of Milk.

During the year three samples of pasteurised milk and three samples of ordinary milk were subjected to the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase tests. All were satisfactory with the exception of one sample of ordinary milk.

Water.

Samples of water from the public supply were examined during the year and proved satisfactory.

Sanitary Inspection.

I have had a complete report from the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Trevethick, as in former years, but as this is not required, I do not think it is necessary to amplify any further beyond stating that 2095 visits and inspections were made as compared with 2085 in 1938.

Records.

All records, including statistics supplied by the Registrar General, are being carefully preserved in order that after the termination of the war a report can be made dealing more fully with the period from the beginning of 1939 to the end of the last complete year, so that annual records may, as far as practicable, be continuous and complete.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Signed) R. H. Wilshaw.

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Southwick Urban District Council.

